

## ASK SHIP YOUR MONTHLY MEDICARE O&A

LOCAL HELP FOR PEOPLE WITH MEDICARE

Q: A lot of my friends have gotten their COVID vaccine. I think I would like to do this, but I don't know where to sign up. Does my Medicare pay for the vaccine?

A: A COVID-19 vaccine helps reduce the risk of illness from COVID-19 by working with the body's natural defenses to safely develop protection (immunity) to the virus.

You will not pay anything for the COVID-19 vaccine. You won't pay a deductible or copayment, and your provider can't charge you an administration fee to give you the shot.

Be sure to bring your red, white, and blue Medicare card so your health care provider or pharmacy can bill Medicare. You'll need your Medicare card even if you're enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan.

If you fill out a form to get the vaccine, you may be asked for your insurer's group number. If you have Part B, leave this field blank or write "N/A." If you have trouble with the form, talk with your vaccine provider.

Medicare also covers COVID-19 tests, COVID-19 antibody tests, and COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatments.

Vaccine sites are available throughout Indiana. To locate a vaccination site near you, go to www.ourshot.in.gov. Here you will find updated information about the vaccine, as well as a tool to help you find vaccine locations.

If you do not have access to a computer or need assistance, you can call 211.

Be alert for scammers trying to steal your Medicare Number. Medicare covers the vaccine at no cost to you, so if anyone asks you for your Medicare Number to get access to the vaccine, you can bet it's a scam.

## Scams to watch for:

- You can't pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine.
- You can't pay to get access to a vaccine.
- Don't share your personal or financial information if someone calls, texts, or emails you promising access to the vaccine for a fee.

If you have questions about Medicare coverage for the COVID vaccine or any other questions related to Medicare, call SHIP at 1-800-452-4800, 1-866-846-0139 TDD or online at www.medicare.in.gov. You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter.

SHIP is a free, unbiased counseling program provided by the Indiana State Department of Insurance SHIP is a free, unbiased counseling program provided by the Indiana State Department of Insurance. To schedule an appointment with SHIP, call 1-800-452-4800, TTY 1-866-846-0139 or visit www.Medicare.IN.gov to find your local site.